

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 16323 101812Z

42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 CCO-00 L-03 STR-04 SS-15

NSC-05 H-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 OC-05 /065 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4112

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR-TEMPORARY CARGO EMBARGO AT FIUMICINO AIRPORT

1. ROME AIRPORT AUTHORITY (SOCIETA AEROPORTI DI ROMA--SAR) HAS ANNOUNCED 48 HOUR EMBARGO ON INCOMING AIR CARGO STARTING 0000 HOURS NOVEMBER 11, 1975. EMBARGO AFFECTS ALL FOREIGN CARRIERS (E.G. PAA AND TWA) BUT NOT RPT NOT ALITALIA SINCE ALITALIA STILL HANDLES ITS OWN AIR CARGO. ANNOUNCED REASON FOR EMBARGO IS CONSTRUCTION WORK IN CARGO AREA, BUT REAL REASON APPEARS TO BE SURFEIT OF UNPROCESSED INCOMING AIR CARGO WHICH IS CHOKING SAR CARGO AREA. ACCORDING PAA/TWA AIR CARGO REPS CURRENTLY WAITING TO BE PROCESSED IS INTER ALIA INCOMING CARGO FROM 12 TWA FLIGHTS AND 5 PAA FLIGHTS.

2. NO RPT NO FLIGHTS OPERATED TO/FROM FIUMICINO AIRPORT NOVEMBER 10 BECAUSE OF STRIKE BY FIREMEN AND CIVILAVIA EMPLOYEES. SAR, HOWEVER, DID NOT RPT NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION TO CLEAR CARGO BACKLOG. AS A RESULT, PAA/TWA WILL HAVE HAD NO RPT NO INCOMING CARGO FOR THREE DAYS BEFORE EMBARGO IS LIFTED.

3. LAW 755 OF NOVEMBER 10, 1973 GRANTS SAR A MONOPOLY ON ALL RPT ALL GROUND HANDLING SERVICES AT ROME AIRPORTS. ALITALIA,
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PAGE 02 ROME 16323 101812Z

HOWEVER, HAS BEEN LARGELY EXEMPT FROM SAR TAKEOVER (CONTRARY TO

PROVISIONS OF LAW 755), RESULTING IN DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT
OF US CARRIERS, WHICH HAVE NO RPT NO CHOICE BUT TO AVAIL
THEMSELVES OF UNSATISFACTORY SAR SERVICES.

4. GIVEN INEFFICIENT SAR OPERATIONS, THERE IS NO RPT NO
ASSURANCE THAT SIMILAR EMBARGO CAN BE AVOIDED IN THE FUTURE.
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Message Attributes

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